the use of pesticides on various crops so as to ensure that pesticides residues do not exceed the tolerance limit prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

(ii) To check unsafe farming practices, the Government is promoting eco-friendly approach through Integrated Pest Management (IPM) on various crops.

(iii) A massive educational and training programme on IPM for farmers and extension functionaries has been launched for minimising the use of chemical presticides.

(iv) Use of bio-pesticides including neem based pesticides is being encouraged.

(v) The Food Health Authorities of States/UTs implementing the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954 and Rules, 1955 have been advised from time to time to keep strict vigil on the level of pesticides residues in food commodities.

Seminar on Fisheries

1389. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the second largest producer of inland fishery in the world, next only to China;

(b) whether India has set a target of eight million tonnes of fishery produce by 2020;

(c) whether a national seminar in reverine and reservoir fisheries was organised at Kochi recently;

(d) whether the seminar evolved a national code (Guidelines) for conservation and utilisation of inland water resources; and

(e) whether Government are working on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No such seminar has been organised by the Government of India.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Survey on suicide by farmers

1390. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study or survey to find out the reasons which compel farmers to take extreme steps of committing suicide in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to protect farmers in case of crop failure, leading to suicides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) As per the reports received, the main reasons for suicide by farmers are crop loss and indebtedness. The respective State Governments which are primarily concerned taken appropriate measures in such cases.

Calamity relief fund and national fund for calamity relief

1391. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the operational guidelines and funding details of Calamity Relief Fund and National Fund for Calamity Relief;

(b) the allocation and tenure; and

(c) the assistance sought from both the funds and the amount released to each State during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Financing of relief expenditure is governed by the recommendations of the Finance Commissions appointed quinquennially. State-wise allocation under Calamity Relif Fund (CRF) is determined by the Finance Commissions and the Government of India and the State